APR 0 1 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e Patent Application of

Keiko SAKAKIBARA et al.

Application No.: 09/446,089

Filing Date: December 17, 1999

For:

GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN

HAVING AURONE SYNTHESIS

ACTIVITY

Group Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Juliet C. Switzer

Confirmation No. 1763

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action mailed on October 1, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.